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TRUSTWORTHINESS • RESPECT
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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 26, 2009

END OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BRINGS REMINDER TO CHECK SMOKE ALARMS AND EMERGENCY KITS

FREDERICK, MD – Frederick County emergency preparedness partners unite to remind citizens that on Sunday, November 1, when daylight savings time ends, it is time to set their clocks back one hour, change their smoke alarm batteries and check their emergency supply kit.

Local health and public safety officials remind families and businesses that working smoke alarms save lives; batteries should be changed every 6 months.

Smoke Alarm Tips:

- Replace your smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Place one alarm outside every room where someone sleeps.
- Place at least one smoke alarm on each floor, including the basement, regardless of whether someone sleeps on a particular floor.
- Test your alarms once a month.
- Change the batteries in every alarm twice a year, usually when you change the clock in the fall and spring.
- When your smoke alarm sounds an alarm, everybody should evacuate the house using your escape plan.

You should also make sure your emergency supply kit is not missing any items and replace any food or medications that have expired. If you do not have an emergency kit, now is the time to create one! Plan 9 is a simple guide to encourage citizens to start a conversation with their family members and employees about emergency preparedness and encourage them to make a plan and a kit with nine essential items.

For additional information, visit www.frederickcountymd.gov/plan9, www.frederickcountymd.gov/emergency or call the Frederick County Department of Emergency Preparedness at 301-600-1746.

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